

Message Text

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15

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 OPR-01 SP-02 SAM-01 SY-04

NSC-05 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 USSS-00 PM-03

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 CPR-01 OC-01

/047 W

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O 090707Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2877

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL KOBE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14599

WHITE HOUSE FOR SCOWCROFT, CHENEY AND ADVANCE PARTY

SEOUL FOR ADVANCE PARTY: HENKEL, LAWSON, ADAMS AND KEISER

KOBE FOR URSOMARSO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: OPPOSITION TO MILITARY AIRCRAFT

ARRIVING OSAKA

1. GOJ REMAINS OPPOSED TOLANDING OF C-141S IN OSAKA.
JAPANESE BELIEVE STRONG LABOR UNION IN OSAKA PREPARED TO
START DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST FORD VISIT AND THAT ARRIVAL
OF AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT WILL PROVIDE EXCUSE.
JAPANESE ESTIMATE THAT ANTI-VISIT SENTIMENT IN OSAKA
AREA STRONG AND FEAR THAT AIRPORT PROTESTS COULD ESCALATE
INTO MORE SERIOUS DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH MIGHT THREATEN
OSAKA-KOBE PORTION OF PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

2. PERSISTENT EMBASSY EFFORTS TO CHANGE GOJ POSITION
THROUGH INTERVENTION WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL UCHIDA HAVE
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NOT WORKED, AND THERE SEEMS INCREASINGLY LITTLE ROOM FOR

MANEUVER OF ISSUE. OPTIONS AVAILABLE APPEAR TO BE:

(A) MAKING APPEAL TO GOJ HIGHEST LEVEL.

(B) LANDING WHCA COMMUNICATIONS GEAR AND PRESIDENTIAL CARS AT POLITICALLY SAFE FIELD AND SHIPPING THEM BY TRUCK (AIRCRAFT COULD USE YOKOTA, THOUGH TRANSIT TIME OVER LAND TO KYOTO ESTIMATED AT TEN HOURS): KOMAKI, A JASDF FIELD NEAR NAGOYA IS APPROXIMATELY 140 KILOMETERS FROM OSAKA OVER GOOD ROADS; KOMATEN, ON THE EAST COAST, IN THE SAME DIRECTION BUT THE ROADS ARE WORSE.

3. IT APPEARS THAT WE HAVE LITTLE CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT OPTION B. OPTION A WOULD INVOLVE SPENDING POLITICAL CAPITAL WITHOUT REMOVING THE RISK OF DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH COULD JEOPARDIZE SUCCESS OF VISIT. HODGSON

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30 JUN 2005

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